

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND and CANCEL the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A security system comprising an information management system that manages information and an encryption support system that supports encryption of the information and in network communication with the information management system in the information management system,

the encryption support system including

an encryption rule storing portion that stores rule information that indicates an encryption rule of the information for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret,

an encryption data transmitting portion that transmits encryption data that is necessary for encrypting the information in accordance with the encryption rule over the network to the information management system,

a process information receiving portion that receives process information, which that indicates the an encryption process performed by the information management system, over the network from the information management system,

a monitoring portion that monitors whether or not the ~~encryption of~~ information is performed encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule by the information management system ~~on the basis of~~based upon the process information received over the network from the information management system, and

a warning portion that warns the information management system over the network, ~~if the monitoring portion has determined that the information is not encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule that was found to encrypt information not in accordance with the rule by the monitoring portion to do encryption of information in accordance with the rule~~, and

the information management system including

an encryption data receiving portion that receives the encryption data over the network from the encryption support system,

a classification secret level storing portion that stores classification of the information managed by the information management system in connection with the secret level for each of the classification,

an encrypting portion that specifies the classification of the information and encrypts the information managed by the information management system by using the received encryption data of the secret level corresponding to for the specified classification of the information received by the encryption data receiving portion,

an information storing portion that stores the encrypted information encrypted by the encrypting portion, and

a process information transmitting portion that transmits the process information about the encryption performed by the encrypting portion over the network to the encryption support system.

2. (Currently Amended) The security system according to claim 1, wherein the rule information indicates, as the encryption rule, a rule about cryptography and a valid term of an encryption key for encrypting the information the rule including an encryption system that is used for encryption and a valid term of an encryption key that is used for the encryption,

if a period from the encryption process of the information since the information management system encrypted information until to the present time exceeds the valid term relevant to for the encryption rule of the secret level corresponding to for the classification of the information, the warning portion warns the information management system,

if the cryptography of the encryption system that is indicated in the rule information is changed, the encryption data transmitting portion transmits the encryption data for performing encryption in accordance with the changed encryption system cryptography to the information management system, and

the warning portion warns the information management system to encrypt the perform encryption of information in accordance with the changed encryption system cryptography.

3. (Currently Amended) The security system according to claim 1, wherein the

information management system includes

a classification secret level transmitting portion that transmits classification secret level information, which that indicates the classification of information managed by the information management system and the secret level corresponding to for the classification, over the network to the encryption support system, and

the monitoring portion performs the monitoring of the encryption support system monitors whether the information is encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule by the information management system based upon the process information received over the network from the information management system by comparing the received process information received from the information management system with the received classification secret level information.

4. (Currently Amended) The security system according to claim 1, further comprising a valid term managing portion that manages a valid term of a certification for affixing an electronic signature to the information, wherein

the monitoring portion monitors whether or not it is necessary to reaffix the affix a different electronic signature to the information in accordance with the valid term of the certification, and

the warning portion warns the information management system for managing the information to reaffix affix the different electronic signature to the information if it is decided that it is necessary to reaffix affix the different electronic signature.

5. (Currently Amended) An information management system that manages information and receives support for encrypting information from an encryption support system in a network communication with the information management system, comprising:

a receiving portion that receives rule information, which that indicates an encryption rule of information defined for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret and encryption data that are necessary for encrypting the information in accordance with the encryption rule, over the network from the encryption support system;

a classification secret level storing portion that stores classification of the information managed by the information management system for each classification in connection with the secret level;

an encrypting portion that specifies the classification of the information and encrypts the information managed by the information management system by using the received encryption data of the secret level corresponding to for the specified classification of the information received by the receiving portion;

an information storing portion that stores the encrypted information encrypted by the encrypting portion; and

a process information transmitting portion that transmits process information, which that indicates the encryption process performed by the encrypting portion, over the network to the encryption support system so as to receive a check of whether or not the encryption of the information was performed in accordance with the encryption rule.

6. (currently amended) An encryption support system that encrypts information and supports an information management system that manages information and is in communication over a network with the encryption support system, the encryption support system comprising:

an encryption rule storing portion that stores rule information that indicates an encryption rule of the information for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret;

a transmitting portion that transmits encryption data that is necessary for encrypting the information in accordance with the encryption rule over the network to the information management system;

a receiving portion that receives process information, which that indicates the encryption process performed by the information management system, over the network from the information management system;

a monitoring portion that monitors whether or not the encryption of information is performed encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule by the information management system on the basis of based upon the process information received over the network from the information management system; and

a warning portion that warns the information management system over the network, if the monitoring portion has determined that the information is not encrypted according to the encryption rule that was found to encrypt information not in accordance with the rule by the monitoring portion to do encryption of information in accordance with the rule.

7. (currently amended) AnThe encryption support system according to claim 6,

further comprising a validity monitoring portion that monitors validity of an encryption rule that is used currently in accordance with vulnerability information about vulnerability of security received from a security information providing portion, wherein

the transmitting portion transmits the encryption data for changing the encryption rule appropriately, to the information management system over the network, if it is decided that the encryption rule ~~that is~~ used currently has little below validity.

8. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage storing a program supporting encryption of information for an information management system that manages information, the program causing ~~the~~ a computer, which is in a network communication with the information management system, to execute a process comprising:

transmitting ~~rule information that indicates~~ an encryption rule ~~of the information~~ for each secret level ~~that is a level of wanting to keep information secret~~ and encryption data that is necessary for encrypting the information in accordance with the encryption rule over the network to the information management system;

receiving process information, which ~~that~~ indicates ~~the~~ an encryption process performed by the information management system, over the network from the information management system;

monitoring whether ~~or not~~ the encryption of information is ~~performed~~ encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule by the information management system ~~on the basis of~~ based upon the process information received over the network from the information management system; and

warning the information management system over the network, if the monitoring determines ~~the~~ information is not encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule ~~that was found to encrypt information not in accordance with the rule by the monitoring means to do encryption of information in accordance with the rule~~.

9. (currently amended) A method, comprising:
- transmitting, over a computer network, an encryption rule for a security level to an information management computer;
- monitoring whether data is encrypted by the information management computer in accordance with ~~a predetermined~~the encryption rule for ~~a~~the security level; and
- producing a warning the information management system over the network, if the data is not encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule.

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A security system comprising an information management system that manages and encrypts information and an encryption support system that is in a network communication with the information management system and that supports encryption of the information performed by the information management system,
- the encryption support system comprising:
- an encryption rule storing portion that stores rule information that indicates an encryption rule ~~for encrypting information~~ for each encryption rank corresponding to an importance of information under an encryption policy,
- an encryption data transmitting portion that transmits encryption data that is necessary for encrypting the information in accordance with the encryption rule over the network to the information management system,
- a process information receiving portion that receives process information, which that indicates an encryption of informationprocess performed by the information management system, over the network from the information management system,
- a monitoring portion that monitors whether ~~or not~~ the encryption of information is performedencrypted in accordance with the encryption rule by the information management system ~~on the basis of~~based upon the process information received over the network from the information management system, and
- a compliance portion that orders the information management system over the network, if ~~found not to encrypt~~the monitoring portion determines the information is not encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule, to encrypt the information in accordance with the encryption rule, and

the information management system comprising:

an encryption data receiving portion that receives the encryption data over the network from the encryption support system,

an encryption rank classification storing portion that stores classification of information ~~managed by the information management system~~ in connection with an encryption rank for each classification,

an encrypting portion that specifies the classification of the information and encrypts the information managed by the information management system by using the received encryption data over the encryption rank corresponding to for the specified classification of the information to be encrypted,

an information storing portion that stores the encrypted information encrypted by the encrypting portion, and

a process information transmitting portion that transmits the process information that indicates ~~the encryption of the information performed by the encrypting portion~~over the network to the encryption support system.